

Legislative Office Building, Room 3300 Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

We write today to support SB 1: AN ACT CONCERNING PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE.

We believe it is important for Connecticut to establish a Paid Family and Medical Leave program. We believe it will protect our workers, make us more competitive with our neighboring states, improve economic justice and allow individuals to take the time off needed to recover from an illness, care for a family member or even have a child.

Enacting a paid family and medical leave program is beneficial, not only to employees and their families but to businesses in our State as well. Paid family leave offers economic security to families during important and often times stressful life events. We believe that workers should be able to take care of their parents and children.

We also believe this program will benefit businesses by increasing worker loyalty, dedication to the employer and productivity. We also believe that Paid leave will help businesses in CT compete with businesses in surrounding States that offer it. We want Connecticut to to be a state where young people want to live and work. We believe offering this program will help attract and retain young professionals in our State.

We also believe that this is not a partisan issue, for example just last year Massachusetts passed a bi- partisan bill that was signed by a Republican Governor. We look forward to continued dialogue around this very important policy issue for our State.

Martin M. Looney

President Pro Tempore

State Senator 11<sup>th</sup> District

**Bob Duff** 

Majority Leader

State Senator 25th District

Mary Daugherty Abrams State Senator 13th District	Dennis Bradley State Senator 23 <sup>rd</sup> District
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Will Haskell State Senator 26 <sup>th</sup> District	Julie Kushner State Senator 24 <sup>th</sup> District
Matt Lesser State Senator 9 <sup>th</sup> District	Doug McCrory State Senator 2 <sup>nd</sup> District
Marilyn/Moore State Senate 22 <sup>nd</sup> District	Cathy Osten State Senator 19 <sup>th</sup> District

Gary Winfield
State Senator 10<sup>th</sup> District